

**Historic Resources Committee  
Town of Camden  
Minutes of Meeting September 14, 2010**

**Present:** Members: Chair: Kit Parker; Members: Beedy Parker, Elinor Klivans, Sonia Spalding; Alternate: Susan Snead; Volunteers: Sally Enggass, Ann Sziklas, Barbara Furman, Rosalee Glass; Select Board Liaison: Deb Dodge; Code Enforcement Officer: Steve Wilson; Camden Library Parks Director: Dave Jackson; Visitors: Dorothea Graham, Judy McGuirk.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved, with the correction (under **Archives**) that the updating involved specifically documents on historic town-owned properties that are held in the Library.

**Old Business:**

**Town Manager's Report:** There was none, but Kit provided Roberta's letter regarding the requested tree trimming to be done, of the infected trees bordering the Village Green and asking for support to increase the tree maintenance budget, come budget time.

Deb Dodge reported on the Select Board decision to allow PopTech to install wifi equipment in the Opera house.

Kit spoke on the upgraded town website, a Camden Futures planning meeting, and a Downtown Parking and Transportation meeting about installing a marked pedestrian crossing on Rt. 1 at Eaton Ave (DOT concurs).

**Village Green:** Sally reported on the planned tree pruning. Discussion of Garden Club/Town relative responsibility, and past budgets ensued. Our committee will call for increased tree maintenance money in next years Town budget.

**Archives:** Rosalee reported that the Archive Committee (the three members, herself, Ann Sziklas and Susan Snead) had completed their work on cards and updated database for all the documents in the Historic Resources document collection (see above), with a third copy deposited at the Town Office, which will be updated as changes occur. Concern was voiced

over Heather Bilodeau's (Walsh History Center director at the Library) hours being cut back, with the suggestion that the Archives committee could fill in assisting researchers using the collection. Kit has talked with Nikki, the library director, to explain the work of the Historic Resources Committee.

**Harbor Park & Amphitheater:** Dave Jackson reported on last night's lightening damage of an elm in Harbor Park. There was no news on national historic landmark designation for the Amphitheatre. The high school botany class wants to make its fall visit to the library and its parks, but may need help to cover the cost of transportation.

### **New Business:**

**Distribution of Orientation Packet:** Kit passed out copies of the excellent orientation package she assembled and wrote, for the use of new members, town employees or officials and, most particularly, the delighted and enlightened committee members.

**Introduction of the town's new code enforcement officer:** Steve Wilson will alert the committee about developments relating to our advisory responsibility and has the forms that users of town properties for events must fill out.

**Design Standards Ordinance:** Kit will be working with a Planning Board subcommittee on developing design standards for historic buildings in the downtown district. Deb explained that the design standards that will appear on the November ballot are *recommended standards* rather than mandatory at this point, but with mandatory planning board review if proposed changes reached a certain level.

**Demolition Notification** (is this Old Business?): Rosalee inquired about the status of work of Barbara and Beedy on researching and proposing a town ordinance on demolition notification, which was postponed owing to committee work on the Great Fire District and should now be resumed. The possibility was proposed of introducing a version into the future site plan review process for historic buildings that the Planning Board subcommittee is working on now. The committee advises: "One step at a time".

**Hist. Res. Committee Mission** (to promote and raise awareness of the historic aspects of Camden): Dave Jackson reported on his work (as a volunteer) leading history tours for visitors to Camden. He suggested that history tours be offered and formalized (and that fees for groups could be charged and donated) as is the case in other towns (e.g. Nantucket) and that HRC connect with the Chamber of Commerce. (and cruise lines) about the tours. Dorothea is interested, having done tour guiding in the Midwest.

Discussion continued on Anne Morris's excellent map and the need for a smaller hand-held map for visitors.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10.

The next meeting will be October 12, 2010, in the Washington St. Conference room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beedy Parker